

members **701** may be formed. This construction is preferable since the height is held constant when the adhesive resin members **701** are processed with heat and pressure.

[0180] The adhesive resin members **701** need not be made of a single material. That is, it is possible to form adhesion layers on the upper and lower surfaces of a resin spacer which hardly deforms, and attach these upper and lower adhesion layers to the active element circuit region **102** and common electrode **205**.

[0181] The adhesive resin members **701** can be pillars having a diameter of about 3 μm to 20 μm , ellipses, or a rib structure formed into stripes on the display surface. Although the pitch (interval) of these adhesive resin members **701** can be one pixel, it can also be about 10 pixels. As the material of the adhesive resin members **701**, it is possible to use, e.g., an acrylic resin, polyethylene, polycarbonate, or so-called hot-melt type resin.

[0182] In this embodiment, the first and second plastic substrates are bonded and fixed not only on their perimeters but also on their inside surfaces. Therefore, when the display device expands or contracts by bending, the stress can be effectively released to the opposing substrate via the adhesion resin members. This makes a thin glass layer difficult to break.

[0183] (Eighth Embodiment)

[0184] As shown in FIGS. 31A and 31B, an active matrix type display device of the eighth embodiment differs from the first embodiment in that a first plastic substrate **104** is larger than a first thin glass layer **101** when viewed in a direction perpendicular to the substrate surface. This first plastic substrate **104** is formed to the outside of the first thin glass layer **101** on which an active element circuit region **102** is formed. Each side of the first plastic substrate **104** is preferably larger by about 1 mm to 10 mm than the corresponding side of the first thin glass layer **101**. This prevents impact to the first thin glass layer **101** in the directions of the individual sides. A side (the left side in FIGS. 31A and 31B) on which a connecting pad electrode **110** is formed has a region where a second thin glass layer **105** is not present. This configuration is so effective as a local force is readily applied to the first thin glass layer **101** in this region when the display device is bent. Therefore, the large first plastic substrate **104** is particularly effective in this region. Also, cracking of corners **802** can be prevented by cutting the first thin glass layer **101** in these corners **802** or rounding the corners **802**.

[0185] The active matrix type display device of this embodiment can be manufactured by thinning a first, non-alkaline glass substrate by mechanical polishing or the like to form a first thin glass layer **101**, and bonding this first thin glass layer **101** to a plastic substrate **104** having an area larger than the first thin glass layer **101** by using an adhesion layer **103** including a peripheral region adhesion layer **1001** and pixel region adhesion layer **1002**. The display device can also be formed by first cutting a first thin glass layer **101** and first plastic substrate **104** to have relatively large areas, and then cutting only the first thin glass layer **101** with, e.g., a laser or diamond cutter from the side of this first thin glass layer **101**.

[0186] A second plastic substrate **107** may be made larger than a second plastic substrate **105** when viewed in the

direction perpendicular to the substrate surface. Alternatively, when viewed in the direction perpendicular to the substrate surface, the plastic layer need not be larger on every side but may be larger only on a side where the connecting pad electrode **110** is formed.

[0187] (Ninth Embodiment)

[0188] As shown in FIGS. 32A and 32B, an active matrix type display device of the ninth embodiment differs from the first embodiment in that a protective layer **901** protects not only the circumferences of transfer conductors **313** but also at least a portion from a first plastic substrate **104**, which includes a portion from a first adhesion layer **103** to a second adhesion layer **106**, to the circumference of a second plastic substrate **107** and the surface of a flexible substrate **317**. In this embodiment, after a liquid crystal is injected and a cell is sealed, an ultraviolet ray curable resin such as an acryl-, allyl-, or epoxy-based resin is applied as the protective layer **901** and hardened. As this protective layer **901**, an elastic resin such as a rubber- or silicone-based resin may be used. The regions covered with the protective layer **901** need not be transparent because these regions are the side surfaces of the display device and hence do not largely participate in display. Referring to FIGS. 32A and 32B, the first plastic substrate **104** is larger than a first thin glass layer **101** when viewed in a direction perpendicular to the substrate surface. However, the first plastic substrate **104** and first thin glass layer **101** can have the same size.

[0189] Those surfaces of the first thin glass layer **101** and a second thin glass layer **105**, which are bonded to the first and second plastic substrates **104** and **107**, respectively, are improved in strength because they are bonded. However, the strength of those surfaces of the first and second thin glass layers **101** and **105**, which oppose a liquid crystal layer **109**, is slightly low. In this embodiment, in a region outside a seal **108** the protective layer **901** protects and fixes the surfaces and side surfaces of the first and second thin glass layers **101** and **105**, thereby improving the strength in the peripheral region. Even when the distance from the seal **108** to the edges of the first and second thin glass layers **101** and **105** is about 1 mm to 10 mm, cracking is prevented and the strength improves. Also, the bending strength is twice or more that when no protective layer **901** is formed. For example, when the film thickness of the first thin glass layer **101** was about 50 μm , the display device could be stably bent until the radius of curvature was about 100 mm with no protective layer **901** formed. When the protective layer **901** was formed using an acryl-based adhesive, the display device could be bent until the radius of curvature was about 50 mm.

[0190] (10th Embodiment)

[0191] As shown in FIG. 33, an active matrix type display device of the 10th embodiment differs from the ninth embodiment in that the peripheral region is protected by using not only a protective layer **901** but also a plastic film **902**. In particular, a plastic film **902** made of, e.g., PES or PEN is preferably bonded by using an adhesive on a first thin glass layer **101** in a region in which a connecting pad electrode **110** and flexible substrate **317** are formed. As the material of this plastic film **902**, an acrylic resin, polyolefin resin, polyimide resin, or the like can be used. Also, as the method of bonding the plastic film **902**, melt adhesion of the material itself can also be used.